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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3209
INFO RUEHXK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 001377

NOFORN
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/15/2019
TAGS: [PREL](#), [PARM](#), [MASS](#), [IS](#), [KPAL](#), [EG](#)
SUBJECT: COUNTER SMUGGLING UPDATE: EGYPT INCREASES EFFORTS
ALONG BORDER WITH SUDAN, RED SEA

REF: A. CAIRO 747 B. CAIRO 160 C. SECDEF 71743 D. CAIRO 1350 Classified By: Ambassador Margaret Scobey per 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. Key Points: -- (S/NF) Egypt has increased efforts to combat arms smuggling to Gaza, with a focus on stopping arms from entering Egypt from
2. (S/NF) Comment: Stopping the lucrative smuggling trade in commercial goods between Egypt and Gaza - which arms smugglers can exploit - preser
3. (S/NF) Comment continued: Tantawi continues to resist U.S. offers of additional counter smuggling assistance, likely due to concerns over s
4. (S/NF) Egyptian authorities report increased maritime patrols and scrutiny of small crafts operating near the Sinai coast. Egypt has also i
5. (S/NF) The Egyptian military says it has increased its presence along the Egypt-Sudan border and claims to have increased aerial surveillar
6. (S/NF) In January 2009, EGIS requested U.S. assistance to purchase X-ray screening to monitor all vehicular traffic into the Sinai for weag
7. (S/NF) On June 17 and July 7, DAO visited the Rafah Terminal and toured the Egypt-Gaza border area. According to Directorate of Military Ir
8. (S/NF) From the third story of a BGF observation building, DAO observed considerable activity on the Gaza side of the border, including ear
9. (S/NF) Since April, two CENTCOM intelligence analysts working in the Office of Military Cooperation have provided Egyptian military intellige
10. (S/NF) In May, Secretary of Defense Gates offered Tantawi additional technical assistance to combat smuggling (ref C). In a June 16 letter